



**State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS**  
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**Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings Scheduling Update**

In an effort to hold worker's compensation hearings during this period of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, the Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings (OWCH) intends to begin scheduling select worker's compensation hearings by video. Only hearings deemed appropriate by the parties will be scheduled in this manner.

Please note, video hearings are not intended as a permanent replacement for in-person hearings. OWCH anticipates that individuals will be able to participate in the video hearing by computer or smart phone. A web browser, camera and microphone are needed.

To accomplish this goal, OWCH requests that applicants' attorneys review pending cases in which Certificates of Readiness have been filed to determine whether the case may be appropriate for a video hearing. Favorable factors for a video hearing include those involving only one witness, no interpreter, and limited exhibits. After an applicant's attorney has identified such a case, OWCH asks that he or she contact respondent's counsel to determine whether he or she is willing to proceed by video hearing. Unless both parties agree, the case will not be placed in ready for video hearing status. Once there is an agreement, the applicant's counsel should submit a written request for a video hearing to OWCH.

The video hearing process will be identical to an in-person hearing, including the use of a court reporter. Once OWCH is notified of a case that is ready to be scheduled for a video hearing, instructions will follow.